

depredations and their extent. It is to be hoped that in a short time the Academy will feel the importance of appointing a paid curator and assistants, whose duty it shall be as early as possible, to put the Museum in complete order of arrangement, to number all its specimens, and prepare a catalogue of the same.

Respectfully submitted by

JOSEPH LEIDY,
Chairman of Curators.

REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL COMMITTEE.

To the President and Members of the Academy:—

The Committee on Botany respectfully report, that during the year good collections of plants have been contributed by Dr. Gibbons from California, T. Meehan from Colorado and Western Kansas, Prof. Davidson from California, Dr. Leidy from the Uinta Mountains, and Professor Asa Gray, a large package chiefly of tropical rubiaceæ. The American plants have added largely to the value of the herbarium, in regard to botanical geography, and by furnishing specimens in varying conditions of growth, besides in a few cases adding to the number of species in the already pretty full collection.

The Committee are desirous of bringing the general herbarium nearer completeness. In order the better to ascertain its deficiencies, the work of preparing a catalogue of species has been commenced. Rough lists have been prepared of the first twenty-three volumes, serving as indices to each volume temporarily; and it is hoped that the whole one hundred and twenty-seven volumes will be thus far finished by the next year.

THOMAS MEEHAN, *for the Committee.*

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Recording Secretary respectfully reports that, during the year ending November 30th, 1872, there have been elected thirty-nine members and four correspondents.

The announcement has been made of the death of the following members and correspondents:—

Fourteen members, namely: Wm. W. Gerhard, M.D., Dr. Wm. Stimpson, John Farnum, Maj. Sydney S. Lyon, John G. Moore, T.

Clarkson Taylor, Prof. Edward Parrish, Mr. Chas. Wilson Peale, Mr. James H. Orne, Prof. John F. Frazer, Dr. Mifflin Wister, Constant Guillou, Maj. Gen. G. G. Meade, U.S.A., and S. Emlen Randolph.

One correspondent, namely: Sir Roderick J. Murchison.

Two resignations of membership have been accepted.

The number of papers contributed and ordered to be printed in the Proceedings of the Academy during the year, has been twenty-seven, as follows:—

F. B. Meek	1	Geo. W. Tryon, Jr.	7
E. D. Cope	3	T. Hale Streets, M. D.	1
O. Finsch	1	Thomas Bland and W. G. Binney .	1
Thomas Meehan	2	John G. Cooper	1
E. L. Berthoud	1	Isaac Lea, LL.D.	1
T. A. Conrad	2	Theo. Gill, M.D.	1
Elliott Coues	2	Wm. M. Gabb	3

Five papers ordered to be published in medical journals, as follows:—

Joseph Leidy, M.D.	1	Albert Frické, M.D.	1
James Tyson, M.D.	1	Jos. G. Richardson, M.D.	2

All of which is respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL B. HOWELL,

Recording Secretary.

REPORT OF RECORDER OF BIOLOGICAL AND MICROSCOPICAL SECTION.

Read before the Section December 2d, 1872, and directed to be forwarded to the Academy as the Report of the Section for the current year.

The closing business year of 1872 leaves our Biological and Microscopical Section in a much more healthy and vigorous condition than did its immediate predecessor. In spite of the gloomy forebodings, which twelve months ago threatened our department with complete and speedy extinction, we can this evening look back to a better record, of real scientific work accomplished during the past year, than even warm friends of a Microscopical society dared at one time to hope was within the bounds of possibility. When we remember that our eminently honorable and useful parent Academy of the Natural Sciences, with her far larger membership, and wider claims upon the scientific world for support, has on a few untoward occasions even found it difficult to